

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04522 041746Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 BIB-01 AID-05 MC-02 OMB-01  
IO-13 /095 W  
-----042238Z 054633 /73

R 041559Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5867  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4522

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, UR, XJ  
SUBJECT: MILITARY ASPECT OF SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE FRIENDSHIP TREATY

REF: (A) 76 MOSCOW 16286, (B) MAPUTO 345 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE FRIENDSHIP TREATY SEEMS  
VERY SIMILAR TO SOVIET-ANGOLAN TREATY OF LAST OCTOBER.  
SOVIET MFA OFFICIAL DEFENDS MILITARY CLAUSE IN LATTER  
TREATY AND RELATES LEVEL OF MILITARY COOPERATION TO  
EXTERNAL THREAT. AFRICAN DIPLOMATS ARE TAKEN BY  
SURPRISE AT SIGNING OF MOZAMBIQUE TREATY. END SUMMARY.  
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1. COMPARISON OF TEXT OF SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE  
FRIENDSHIP TREATY IN APRIL 3 PRAVDA WITH TEXT OF  
SOVIET-ANGOLAN TREATY OF OCT 8, 1976 INDICATES  
NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES (REF A). CONTRARY TO  
IMPRESSION WHICH SOVIET MFA PRESS CHIEF LEFT WITH  
WESTERN JOURNALISTS IN MAPUTO (REF B), SOVIET-

MOZAMBIQUE TREATY INCLUDES ARTICLE ON MILITARY COOPERATION WHICH IS IDENTICAL TO THAT IN SOVIET-ANGOLA TREATY.

2. ON MARCH 30 VISITING FSO JON GLASSMAN ASKED MFA THIRD AFRICAN DEPT COUNSELOR, E.I. BEDRIN

(ZAMBIA, TANZANIA, AND MOZAMBIQUE), ABOUT SIGNIFICANCE OF MUTUAL MILITARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF SOVIET UNION AND ANGOLA UNDER TERMS OF SOVIET-ANGOLAN TREATY. GLASSMAN SPECIFICALLY ASKED IN WHAT WAY ANGOLA MIGHT ASSIST MILITARY DEFENSE CAPABILITY OF SOVIET UNION OTHER THAN BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO PORTS OR OTHER FACILITIES. BEDRIN DID NOT HINT THAT SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE TREATY WAS IN WORKS, NOR DID HE RESPOND DIRECTLY TO QUESTION OF SOVIET BENEFIT TO BE DERIVED FROM MUTUAL MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. HE EMPHASIZED BREZHNEV LINE (REPEATED BY PODGORNYY DURING HIS TRIP) THAT SOVIET UNION SEEKS NO BASES, ETC., IN AFRICA OR ELSEWHERE AND THEN HE REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT MILITARY CLAUSE OF TREATY REFERRED TO AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE BEING CONCLUDED ("NA OSNOVE ZAKLYUCHAYEMYKH. . . SOGLASHENIYZ), I.E., AN ONGOING PROCESS. HE PUT SOVIET-ANGOLAN MILITARY RELATIONSHIP IN CONTEXT OF ONGOING SECURITY THREAT AGAINST ANGOLA FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND IMPLIED THAT LEVEL OF SOVIET-ANGOLAN MILITARY COOPERATION WOULD RELATE TO LEVEL OF THREAT FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

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3. COMMENT: NATURE OF BEDRIN'S COMMENT INDICATES TO US THAT HE HAD YET TO BE ANNOUNCED SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE TREATY IN MIND WHEN HE VOCIFEROUSLY DEFENDED MILITARY ARTICLE OF SOVIET-ANGOLA TREATY. OBVIOUSLY SOVIET MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH THIRD COUNTRIES CAN BE DEVELOPED IN ABSENCE OF FORMAL TREATIES OF FRIENDSHIP, BUT, AS FAR AS SOVIETS ARE CONCERNED, THESE TREATIES DO PROVIDE LEGAL BASIS FOR LONG TERM AS OPPOSED TO CASE BY CASE COOPERATION. QUESTION OF ANGOLAN AND NOW MOZAM-BICAN QUID FOR SOVIET QUO REMAINS UNANSWERED AND WE ARE NOT PUT AT EASE BY BEDRIN'S EXPLANATION.

4. SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE AFRICAN DIPLOMATS HERE WERE TAKEN ABACK BY SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE TREATY. PRIOR TO SIGNING, NEITHER TANZANIAN (ALSO HANDLES MOZAMBIKAN INTERESTS) NOR ZAMBIAN EMBASSIES FELT THAT FRIENDSHIP TREATY WAS LIKELY TO BE SIGNED

DURING PODGORNÝ VISIT. DURING APRIL 4 CALL,  
ZAMBIAN EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY HUMPHREY KUNDA  
EXPRESSED SOME PLEASURE AT ZAMBIA HOLDING MODERATE  
LINE DURING PODGORNÝ VISIT, BUT EXPRESSED GREATER  
UNEASE OVER IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT HE FELT TO BE  
CURRENT SOVIET OFFENSIVE IN AFRICA EXEMPLIFIED  
BY ZAIRIAN EVENTS ON ONE HAND AND SIGNING OF  
SOVIET-MOZAMBIQUE TREATY ON THE OTHER. HE FELT  
THAT SOVIETS WERE FAR MORE SERIOUS ABOUT THESE  
TREATIES THAN WERE THE ANGOLANS AND THE MOZAM-  
BICANS, AND THAT THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES WERE  
ENTERING LIGHTLY INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE  
SOVIET UNION FROM WHICH THEY MIGHT NOT SO LIGHTLY  
BE ABLE TO EXTRICATE THEMSELVES IN THE FUTURE.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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